

Combining Sentences with Compound Subjects and Predicates



Sentences are not limited to having a single subject and predicate (or verb). A sentence can have two or more subjects called a **compound subject**. A sentence can also have a **compound predicate**. Some sentences may have both a compound subject and a compound predicate. Sometimes, instead of writing two short sentences, you may want to combine the subjects or predicates (or both) into a single sentence providing the same information. (See page 577 in *Texas Write Source*.)

Note: Notice how using a compound predicate to combine the two sentences below eliminates repetition and lets you use one sentence instead of two.

Example

Shorter Sentences:

I got up at 6:00 in the morning.

I got dressed in my warmest clothes.

Combined Sentence Using a Compound Predicate:

I **got up** at 6:00 in the morning and **dressed** in my warmest clothes.



Directions

Combine each of the following pairs of sentences into a single sentence that uses compound subjects or predicates. See page 515 in *Write Source* for more information and additional examples. Some sentences may require both a compound subject and compound predicate. The first sentence has been done for you.

1. My dad was taking me ice fishing. My uncle was coming, too.

My dad and my uncle were taking me ice fishing.

2. My dad made me a huge pancake-and-sausage breakfast. He asked if I was full.
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3. On the way to the lake, the two men told funny fishing stories. They poked fun at each other's fish tales.

4. I believed only about half the stories. I laughed at all of them anyway.

5. The heat in the car made me drowsy. The car's heat finally put me to sleep.

6. At the lake, the cold wind cut right through my warm clothes. It caused my teeth to start chattering.

7. My dad gathered kindling. My uncle helped and soon started a hot blazing fire.

8. I liked fishing that day. I enjoyed the warm fire even more.

Next Step Write a paragraph describing an experience you have had in nature. Then rewrite the paragraph, combining sentences using compound subjects and predicates. Compare your two paragraphs and discuss the results with a classmate. Do each of you see an improvement in your rewritten versions?